

AN

INAUGURAL ESSAY

on

Read March 182

ERYSIPELAS

for

The Degree

of

DOCTOR OF MEDICINE

in the

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

BY

WM. S. ZANTZINGER.

OF

PENNSYLVANIA.

Philadelphia:

Nov. 1827

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

EDUCATION

EDUCATION

EDUCATION

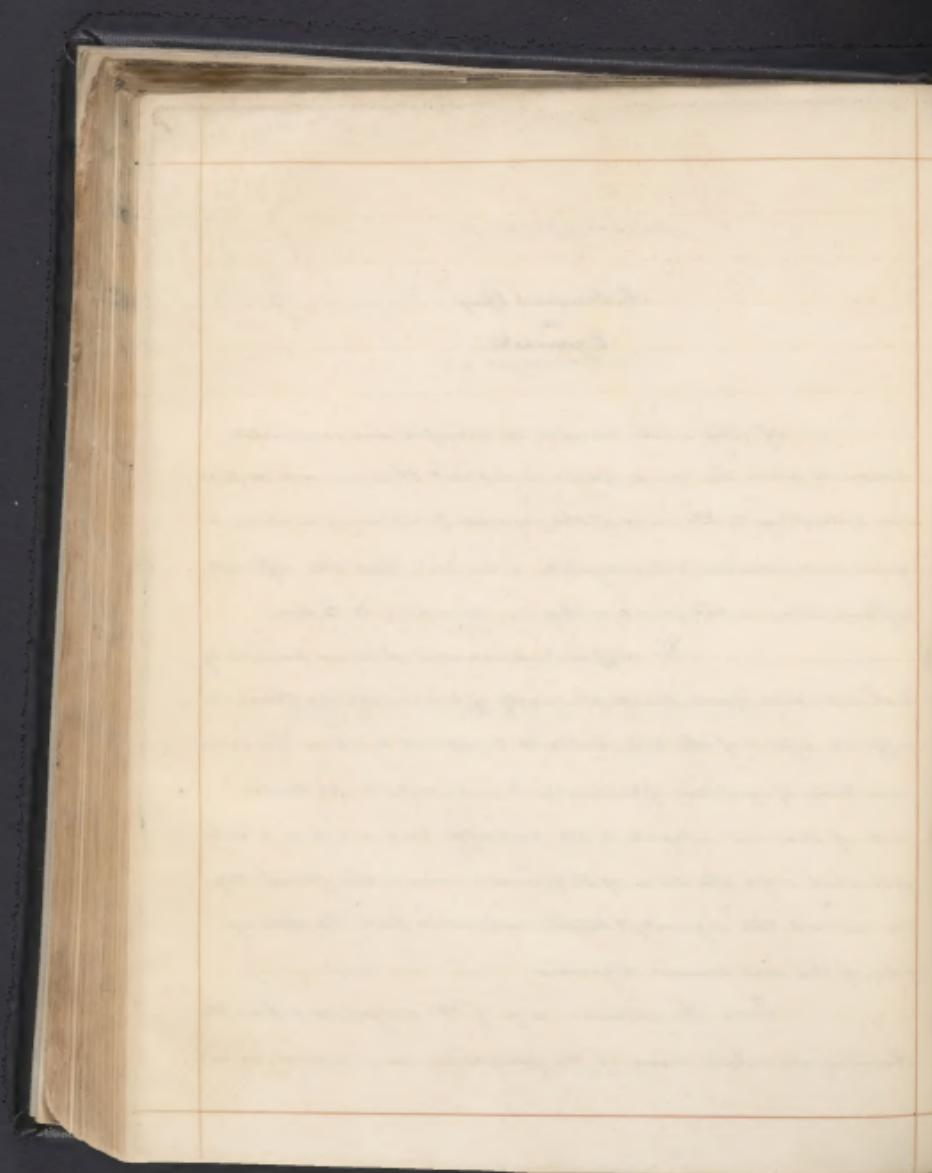
1

An Inaugural Essay
on
Erysipelas &c.

of the whole range of described and complicated diseases, to which the human frame is subject, there are none perhaps more interesting to the mind of the medical practitioner, or which require more attention & investigation on his part, than the different inflammations, or phlegmasia as they are termed by Dr' Cullen.

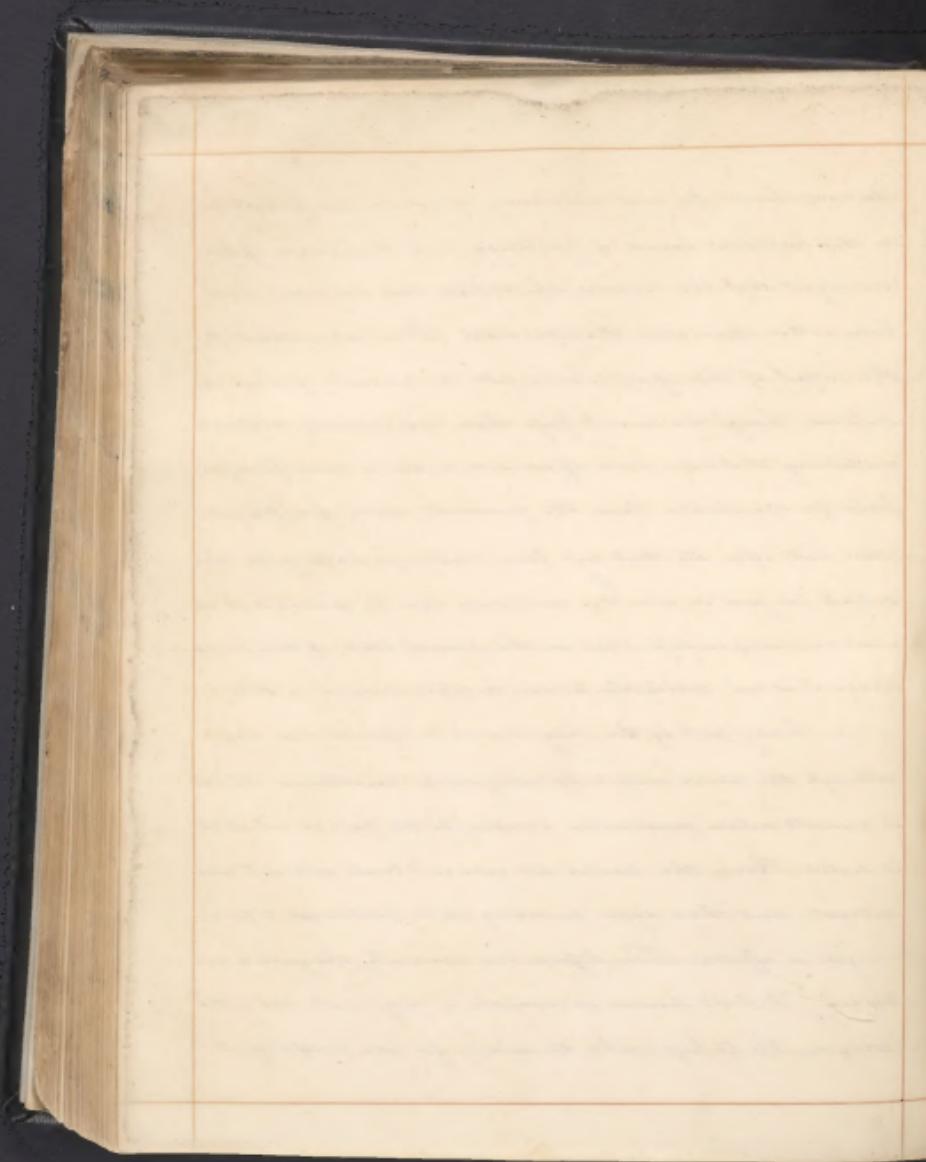
The different appearances which are presented by each individual species, the great variety of causes inducing them, the different tissues of the body liable to be affected by them, the numerous train of symptoms appertaining to each, and the particular mode of treatment adapted to the particular kind, all form a subject which, since the time of Hippocrates down to the present day, has exercised the ingenuity & talents, and called forth the skill of some of the most eminent physicians.

From the extensive range of the subject, and from the obscurity in which many of the phenomena are involved, we can



by comprehend why great discrepancy of opinion has prevailed on this important branch of pathology; and it is matter of serious regret, that the doctrines, which have been advanced, have been rather speculative than practical. It is not material to the subject of this essay, to enter into an account of these discussions; though we cannot pass them over entirely, without mentioning, that none have afforded a wider or more fruitful field for speculation, than the proximate cause of inflammation. But after all that has been written or said upon the subject, no just or accurate conclusions can be drawn, and we must candidly confess, that in the present state of our knowledge, it is not distinctly known, in what it really consists.

Every part of the body is prone to inflammation, and although the disease retains its own general characters in all, yet it presents certain peculiarities, according to the part in which it is seated. Hence the division into general & local, external and internal, and these again, according as a particular tissue or organ is affected. These tissues are variously designated and divided. Dohrn's division is considered a very sound and satisfactory one. The perhaps rather too minute for mere pathological



injuries. On the present occasion, the more simple one, into the mucous, serous, fibrous, nervous, cellular, & dermick, will, we think, answer every purpose. These are so denominated, partly from certain fluids, which are excreted from their surfaces, & partly from certain peculiarities of structure, which they possess.

Inflammation therefore is modified by two circumstances; 1st by the nature of the part, in which it is situated, & 2^d by the causes, which have induced it. It may occur in any one of the above tissues, and its termination will be different according to the nature of such tissue, upon which it gres itself. Thus inflammation of the mucous tissue most frequently terminates in an increased flux and altered state of its secretions, often purulent, accompanied by a thickening of the membrane. Inflammation of the serous tissue may terminate in effusion & adhesion; that of the fibrous & nervous in effusions of a particular kind; that of the cellular in resolution, suppuration, and adhesion.

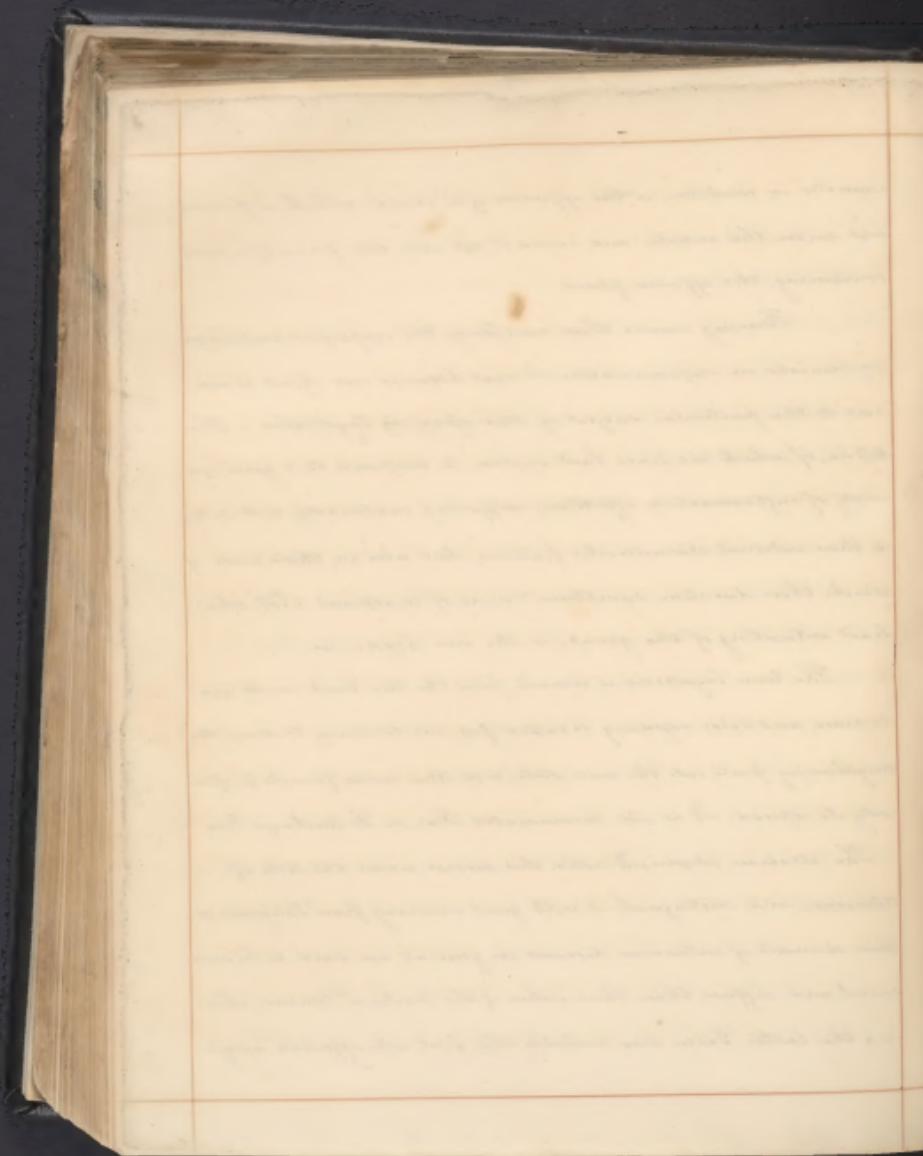
The dermick tissue however, is the one with which we are most concerned at present. By it, we understand the whole cutaneous covering of the body. Inflammation when attacking it, is most similar to simple pleuro-mosous inflammation, and more generally ter-

-involves in resolution & the effusion of a fluid, which is pourest out under the cuticle, and raises it up into the form of a vesicle containing the effused fluid.

Having made these necessary, tho' imperfect preliminary remarks on inflammation, it next becomes our object to advert to the particular subject of this chapter, viz Cysipela. - The topic, of which we have last spoken, is disposed to a great variety of inflammatory affections, differing materially, not only in their external characteristic features, but also in their mode of attack, their duration, symptoms, & mode of treatment. Not the least interesting of the group, is the one before us.

The term Cysipela is derived from the two Greek words εγενεται συνειπειν, to draw, and συνειπειν adjoining; so called from its tendency to draw the neighbouring parts into the same state, or in other words, furnishes propensity to spread. It is also denominated Rose, or St. Anthony's Fire.

The Arabian physicians note this disease under the title of Almiasine, and distinguish it with great accuracy from Phlegmon; their accounts of cutaneous diseases in general are said to be more correct and diffuse than those either of the Greeks or Romans. Among the latter Galen was probably the first, who afforded any



distinct history of the disease tho' he appears to be more anxious to distinguish it from Phlegmon than to afford any minute description of it.

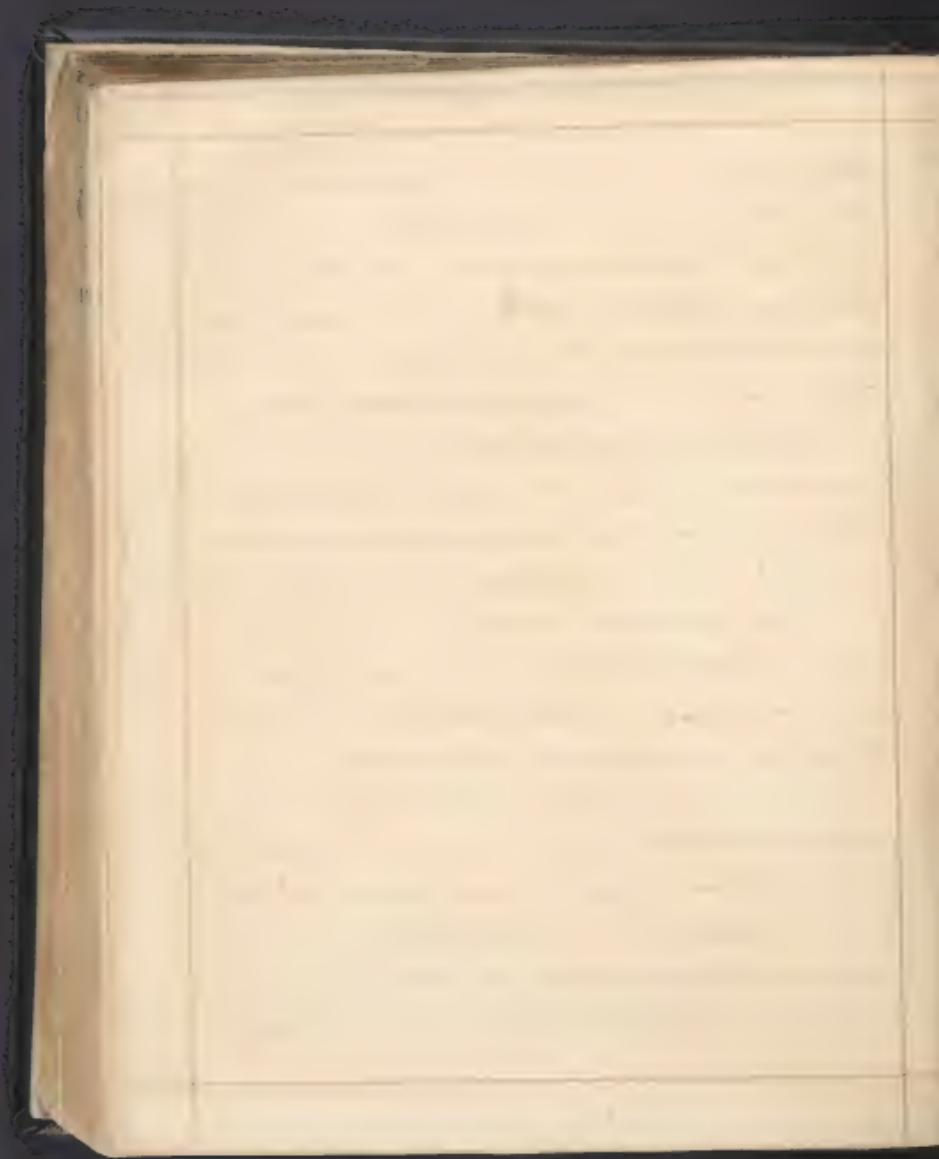
Cysipelas may be defined to be an inflammatory, cutaneous, and slightly elevated swelling, occurring esp. in fingers, and irregularly circumscribed. The definition afforded by Willan appears objectionable from the circumstance of his considering it as a vesication as an invariable attendant, which, as will be seen hereafter is not the case. Medical and surgical writers in ancient times paid much attention to the investigation of the differences between this disease & Phlegmon, and this we find likewise to be the case with some of the moderns. According to Galen: Heat & temperature are symptoms common to both diseases, but the colour in them is different, that of Phlegmon being a red, purulent red, that of Cysipelas a pale red inclining to yellow, which is easily effaced by a touch of the finger, and which returns when the pressure is taken off. In Phlegmon the tumour is hard, tense, and painful, on Cysipelas, it extends diffusely with considerable heat and uneasiness; but without tension or throbbing. Phlegmon is seated deeply in flesh; whereas Cysipelas does not penetrate be-



"below the skin". These distinctions may be considered the same as those made by the more modern writers generally. Cutlers' make cutaneous affections into two kinds, say, Elegance & Hypoplasia and the latter again into Hypothal & Hypoplasia, vulgaris; their last two differing in the first being entirely a local affection & the other constitutional. If the two kinds the one arises from the other in much the same circumstances as those mentioned by Galen, and also in their termination. The differences between Elegance & Hypoplasia seem to depend principally upon the different seat of the disease; the former being situated in the cellular texture & the latter in the external surface of the skin communicating with the retinaculum Willan, without being influenced by any hypothesis or reason upon the subject proceeds it were to form his varieties - one of the modern writers also seems very anxious to establish a strict distinction between Hypoplasia & Elegance on the ground that their symptoms called & mode of treatment are different. Among them we may enumerate as most distinct under Elegance & Common Impetigo. The former of these has carried his idea so far, as even to doubt whether Hypoplasia ought to be classed among these affections, which possess the specific char-



ters of inflammation, & proposes that it be esteemed a disease
having its own peculiar characteristics. Mr. P. Cooper, the same
subject agrees with the above mentioned author. His views are
thus expressed: "Though the affection may have such relation
with the latter disorder, the inflammatory is well not allowed
to be considered as a positively separate species of disease, yet
if its symptoms be investigated with care, it will be found that
these relations are sufficiently remote to make Syphilis
"distinguishable from the other." Dr. Leggatt in his principles of Surgery has an annexed
extract very apparent from and applied to the one above mentioned.
He states that the whole class of Syphilitic cannot be
distinguished from those of inflammation in general and that
the particular state of constitution existing at the time sufficient
to distinguish Syphilis or Syphilitic. Both his sentiments
are best designed to convince us to consider that the idea
of separating the constitution of the relation between Syphilis and
Inflammation is without a just foundation. If we attend to the
disorders which have been named of the membrane and upon
the remarks which have been offered relative to the respective



3

scals of Erysipelas & Phlegmas, fixing one in the cutaneous vessels
and the other in the cellular substance. The succession follows
that the one is a disease running, properly under the head of
cutaneous affections or the exanthemata of Galen, and the other
is a disease belonging to those of the cellular tissue. - But
though we should take this view, it does not follow that Erysip-
elas should be confined to the skin. From the violence of
the inflammation, it is possible for the disease to be extended
to the cellular membrane beneath, and involve it to such a
degree as to cause its entire destruction. In such cases we find
that an insensible putrid matter is generally found. We
must therefore consider Erysipelas as a truly ^{extensive} inflammatory
affection differing, as most others of the class, in its degrees of
violence, having its own, peculiar characteristics; the eruption
being preceded by febrile symptoms, and arising from a varie-
ty of causes both external & internal, but which are of the
same kind as those producing common inflammation.

Various varieties of Erysipelas have been noticed, as
many authors justify speculation and accommodate to the par-
ticular views of the writers. I will account of the number of

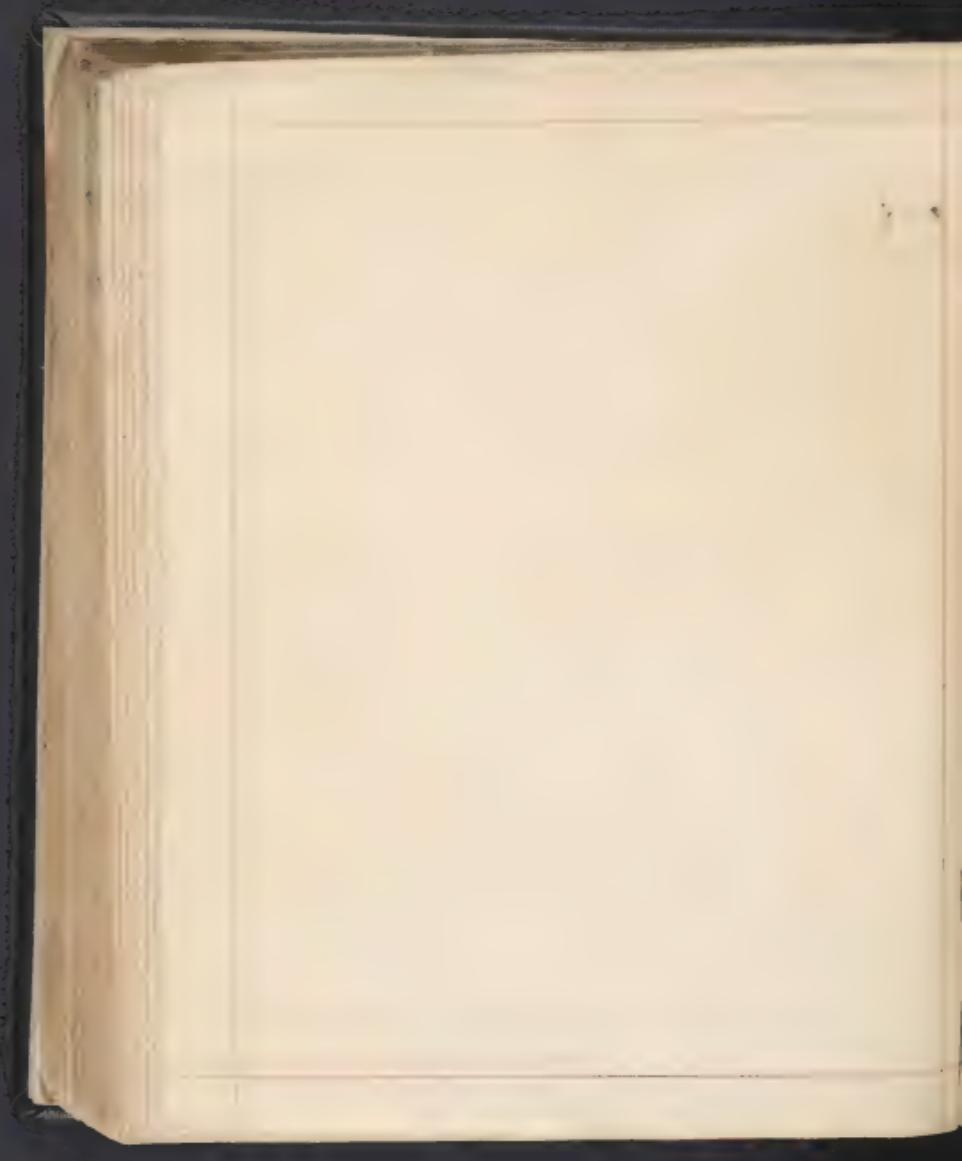


this disease is founded upon the doctrine of the four humors
 supposed to exist in the body. Galen's division is into four
 classes by Prosthetic Physiognomy: 1. Edematous; 2. Gangrenous
 3. & 4. Exanthem: the first or third affecting the face, breast
 & extremities and the latter indiscriminately any part of the body.
 Galen, it would seem had made no particular classification.
 Paracelsus made a division into the acute, chronic, malignant,
 and gangrenous fevers. Armstrong has two species of the malignant
 "erythematous" considering them however as mere modifications
 of the same disease and wholly dependent for their continuation
 on the condition of the patient when they attack and the extent of
 the contamination, — and many others might be mentioned;
 whose arrangement was different from any of the above. As therefore
 most of those classes appear to be arbitrary, and their species
 to be dependent for their titles on certain additional symptoms
 which have been occasionally observed, & as particular parts might
 chance to be affected it would perhaps be the better plan to con-
 sider them as mere modifications of the same disease arising from
 Constitution, situation, habit, &c. and differing only in their scale
 and locality. We find, on this account, a lost no particular division.



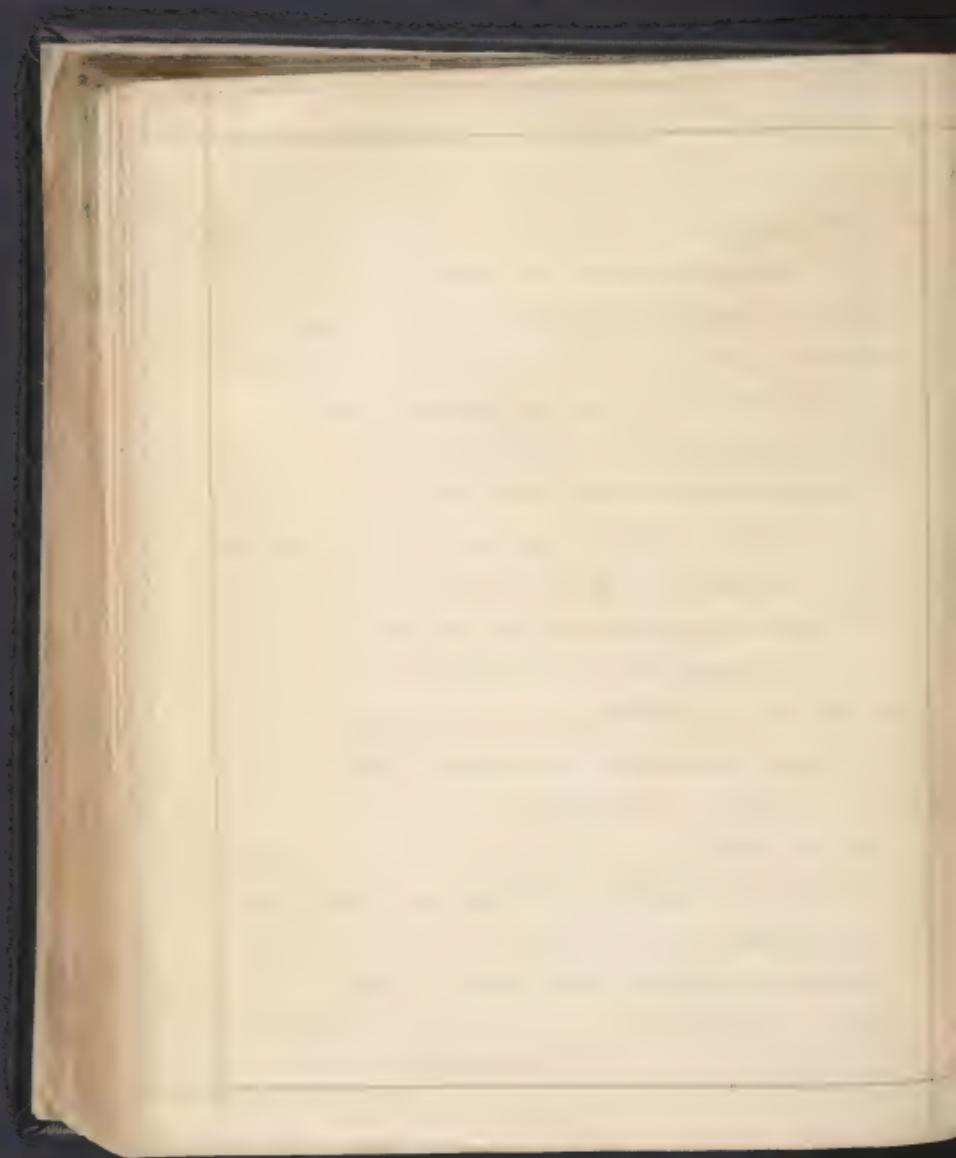
Cyphobole may attack any part of the cutaneous surface, but of all the face appears to be most prone to it. Why this should be the case it is difficult to explain, tho' it is probably from its being so much more exposed than any other, and therefore capable of being acted on more readily by vicissitudes of weather, one of the most common causes of the disease. As the symptoms are common to the disease, whatever part it attacks we will describe it when the face is the seat.

The disease comes on with the usual symptom of pruritis, tho' there are sometimes violent, such as redness and swelling alternated with feelings of heat, a hot pigment and somewhat hard pustule, fixed tongue, & sensation of tongue, loss of appetite and pain in the head, loins of abdomen, still other pains in the back & limbs, or sometimes a sense of stiffness or numbness in the neck. Delirium is very often an attendant. The first symptom having continued from one to three days, redness becomes perceptible, at first of no great extent and appearing at different places sometimes about the angle of the lower jaw, or on the cheek or at the side of the nose. Each spot as it becomes affected will swell considerably. The red-



and has a raised edge and readily disappears upon the application of pressure but quickly returning when the pressure is removed. It is attended also with a distressing eructation which is of a burning or tingling kind. The eructation will vary extant gradually over the side of the face or across the nose to the other side; sometimes it travels over the whole scalp descending in some part of the back of the neck & may run in the same course in front, and extend as low as the breast or clavicles. As the eructation spreads to other parts it is said decreased in force until this time it had before occupied. The erysipelas frequently becomes very large and in this case so as to disfigure the countenance of the patient exceedingly. The surface of the tumour is shining elastic & smooth and distinctly circumscribed, and bathed in a strong perspiration... blistering. The erysipelas may continue for an irregular number of days, from two to ten days, the force subsiding no sooner than the elevation of the countenance but subsiding with a in the same degree as at first, or increasing in the same rate as the original.

The erysipelas may terminate either in resolution,



a cubed mass a garnetaceous matter, a colour of brown, the
 red increasing at the edges of the tumour; in the pro-
 portion of excrescences which contain a fluid composed of
 different qualities, at first clear & watery, and afterwards
 dark-coloured & opake, & when discharged liable to excrete
 the parts over which it runs. The places on which these
 excrescences have existed, become covered with a hard & black
 crust or encrustation. The disease may also terminate in sup-
 puration, when it is extended to the cellular membrane.
 The eyelids are the most part liable to engorgement from this
 disease. The disease may also carry its progress so far as to
 destroy even the texture of the eye-balls; an instance of
 which will be found among the cases near the close of this
 chapter.

These are the usual symptoms, apprehended of
 ergypelus, when it attacks the face. Next to it, the upper
 & lower extremities are parts on which it is most liable to
 get itself. When these or any other part, become so sore,
 the same relation with little variation is observed.

Crustaceous occur in this disease, as well as



on many others; as for instance in some cases the tumour is completely formed on the second day, and vesiculations appear on it the same evening; in others the eruption will disappear & return again: sometimes both sides of the face are affected simultaneously, and sometimes the glands of the face & neck become involved. Seasonably the disease has affected upon one part of the body as the face, & has succeeded progressively downward so the lower extremities & base of the head are mentioned by Willan & Brown.

Principally sudden attacks, however before the age of puberty but is rather a disease of advanced life, and is more frequently to be met with in women than in men. Those most prone to it are commonly possessed of a languid or listless & irritable habit of body. It is often preceded in its occurrences, and in some instances has occurred once or twice every year & sometimes oftener. The circumstance of its tendency to recur so frequently in the same person, has been brought forward as an objection to its having a place among the exanthemata as one of the leading features of the disease is that they are incident but once to the same person.



some. Cullen however has given us no positive reason for his overlooking this circumstance although he says that the exanthemata are of three different kinds, and he places Ergysipelas among the second as an eruptive fever, produced by a matter generated within the body itself. At any rate the affection urged cannot be esteemed a valid one, since we know, that in every large collection of diseases, there are always variations from the general rule.

Erysipelas does not seem to be confined to any particular season of the year. It may occur at any period, tho' it is said to prevail more in the autumn and whenever hot weather alternates with cold or wet.

The causes of Erysipelas are not definitely made out; writers disagreeing frequently in their details of them. Among them are imagined violent passions of the mind, as anger, love, grief, &c. Indrawing to the heat of a fire or to the rays of the sun, or the injection of a draught of cold damp air, particularly after violent exercise, such as civil exercises or other causes inducing febrile heat; or it may arise from wounds, tumours, burns,



20

and injuries of every kind: it very frequently is induced without any evident cause. In fact the disease may be brought on by any of the common causes of inflammation. Of those which have been enumerated exposure to cold and intermission appear to be the most prolific sources.

Erysipelas has not hitherto generally been considered contagious, but by some, on account of its frequency and the number affected with it at the same time, it has been ascribed to Epidemic influence. On the 2^d, 3^d, 4th, 5th & 6th January 1798 an paper contained which was read by Dr. Wells before the Society in the year 1798: and in which are related cases which had occurred both in his private and Hospital practice. The object is to establish, in some measure the idea of the contagious nature of this disease and the circumstances mentioned are certainly very striking. His positive conclusions are however drawn by him thus he states in a cautious manner: "that the facts seem to prove, that it may at least in some instances be communicated from one person to another": he recommends therefore that attention be paid to them, and that we might in all



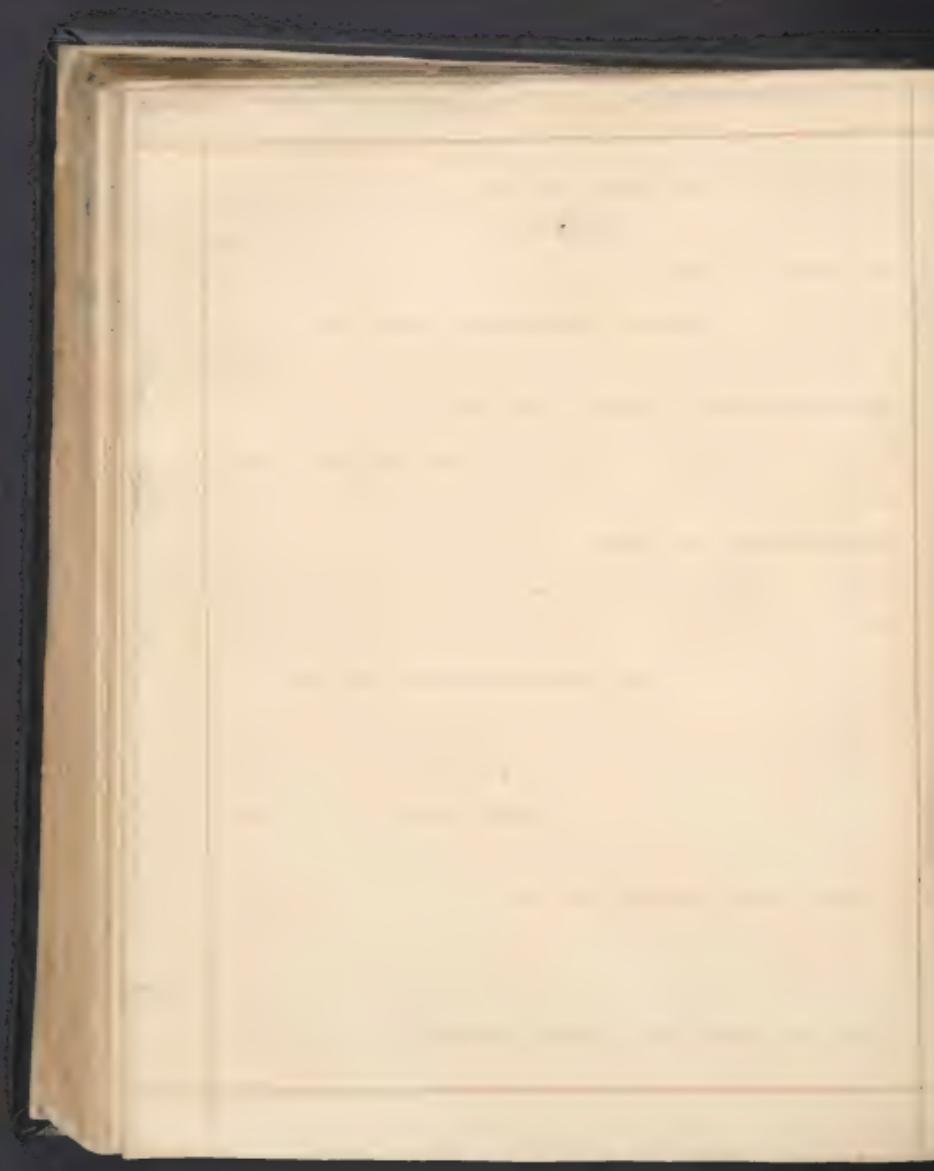
instances, to guard against its spreading. An instance is also related by Nillan, of a young girl having been affected with this disease, in consequence of exposure to cold, whose mother, her only attendant, was a short time afterwards suddenly affected with the usual symptoms.

But, as he states, no satisfactory conclusions can be drawn from a single instance and he had not met with another since. Dr. Cullen on this point thus expresses himself.

"The disease is not commonly contagious, but as it may arise from an acid matter externally applied, so it is probable that the disease may be communicated from one person to another". His ideas, and those of Dr. Wells, appear therefore to correspond. Mr. Pearson thinks there is reason, from the circumstance of several persons in the same ward of a Hospital being affected at the same time, to conclude, that it is occasionally an Epidemic disease, but is unable to decide whether it is or is not contagious. Mr. Cooper holds the same opinion. Mr. Thomas states that some instances have occurred in his practice, which induce him to think that Symplesis is occasionally



contagious and that his supposition is confirmed by certain cases recorded in the Phil. Vol. Medico-Chirurgical Journal. Armstrong, in the controversy tells us expressly that he has met with no facts, which would at all warrant him in a belief of its contagious nature. But although most appear to be so doubtful, whether the disease, as occurring in out-door practice, be contagious, yet all agree on describing it as so common in Hospitals as to lead to a belief either in its dependence on contagion or most easily on epidemic influence. It has sometimes been produced in a large number of persons at once in the same ward, where the utmost attention has been paid to cleanliness and to the personal comforts of the patients. In the Pennsylvania Hospital, some years ago, Trichinellos increased to such an extent, and appeared to be as invariable a result upon the infliction of a wound, or the most simple operation (as the opening of an abscess or bulb) that the greatest care was requisite, and it became in fact necessary for the surgeons of the House to dispense in a while with the use of the knife. It must be evident



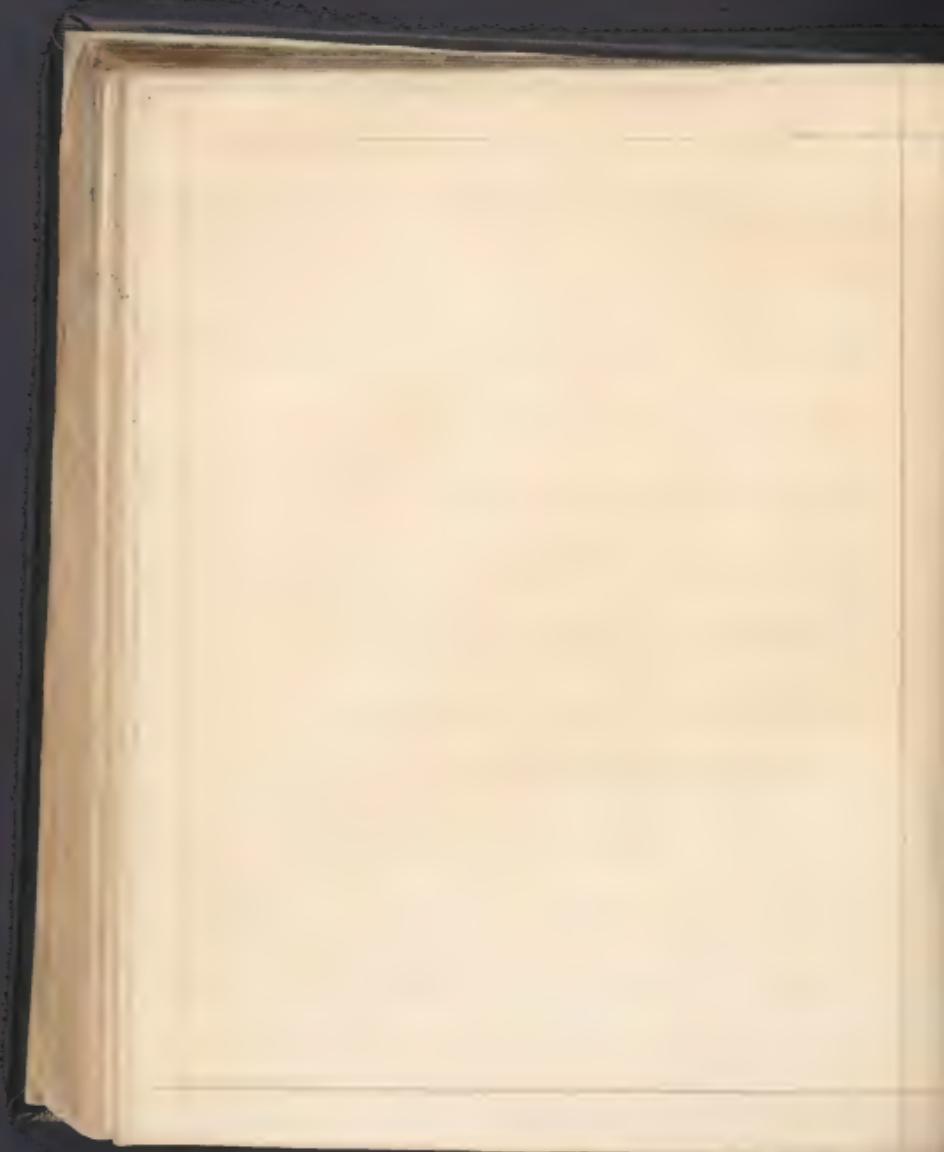
&c &c, who have ever visited this well conducted Establishment, that the disease could not have arisen from any foul or impure state of the atmosphere within the ward, or from a neglect of either of the precautions just mentioned.

We are brought therefore from the above facts almost irresistibly to the conclusion, that this disease is produced sometimes by a peculiar Epidemic influence connected with some general or local state of the air. We have no mention made by writers of our own country, so far as our observations have extended, respecting the occurrence of a contagious disposition in the private cases which have come under their notice—Before leaving this part of our subject, we will just remark, that it is said; that the disease can be communicated by circulation or accidental application of the matter of the vesicle.

We will now proceed to offer some remarks upon the Prognostic and Diagnosis of this disease. The former is to be regulated by the extent of the disease its intensity, and the part which it affects, that of the face being always the most dangerous. It has been allowed on all sides, that *Coryphaea* is susceptible of



metastasized from the external to the internal parts, and the degree of danger would appear to depend principally upon the probability of this occurring - and we are to judge of this by the tertium and venae appearing early and increasing. If neither of these are present the prospects are favourable. If the disease arises in a full plethoric habit of body, commences early, occupies the face, or is attended with unusually high inflammatory symptoms, or if the fever be of a typhoid character, the eruption of a very dark colour, or it suddenly recedes from the surface, and is accompanied at the same time with prostration of strength, the rest of the patient is great & pale skin and great advancement in years are also among the unfavorable prognostics. When the swelling has a soft and puffy feel, and extends over a large portion of surface, or the vesicles are of a livid or black colour, and contain a fluid of a brownish hue, or when the cellular membrane becomes much involved, the pulse being at the same time weak & feeble, great danger is to be apprehended. A suppuration of venae is said to be a fatal symptom, and a burning of them unfavourable also. Ulcerated vesicles taking place from the external to the internal parts are also stated to take place from one part of



the external surface to another, an instance of which is related by Desaint. The latter author considers the obstinate ulcers and gangrene, which are occasionally sequela of the disease, as dependent either upon a want of care or upon the mode of treatment. When the disease has occupied the face and caused fatal suppuration of the brain and its consequences are to be traced.

In regard to the Drapetis little need be said. Endopelvis can only be confounded with Cyathium; a difference from the latter we have already sufficiently located. The idea which we entertain respecting Cyathium is that in the adult form it appears to result from the application of certain, known solutions of either animal, vegetable or mineral in the strings of various insects, the different irritating power of plants seems to shew it found in the forests and other places where they grow from certain articles of food taken into the stomach. From among the latter, as an instance, we may select Strawberries; no one which, it is well known, occasionally produce an exanthematous affection over the whole surface. This opinion is not conformable to



that of most of the systematic writers, we cannot avoid supposing, in the above have likewise a more baneful effect upon the skin, without in general affecting the system. Erysipelas therefore can hardly be esteemed occupying a place among the species of Hypnotics, as has been supposed by some, which is always a violent cerebral affection.

From the variety of opinions entertained by writers on Hypnotics, respecting its causes, appearance of skin and soot, it is not surprising that its pathology should have been involved for a long time in doubt and obscurity. Without entering into an account of what was in former times the prevailing doctrine, we will at once direct our attention to that which is now in a great measure in vogue. This is that the disease is invariably seated in the stomach in connexion with the rest of the membranous or mucous districts and is connected with a deranged state of the sympathetic nerves, and perhaps with a morbid condition of the splanchnic secretion. The subjects in whom it is most frequently to be found; the symptoms indicative of gouty disorders, which arises in the disease, such as increased sickness at stomach, violent tongue &c &c the accumulation of those various humors most liable to it, who are

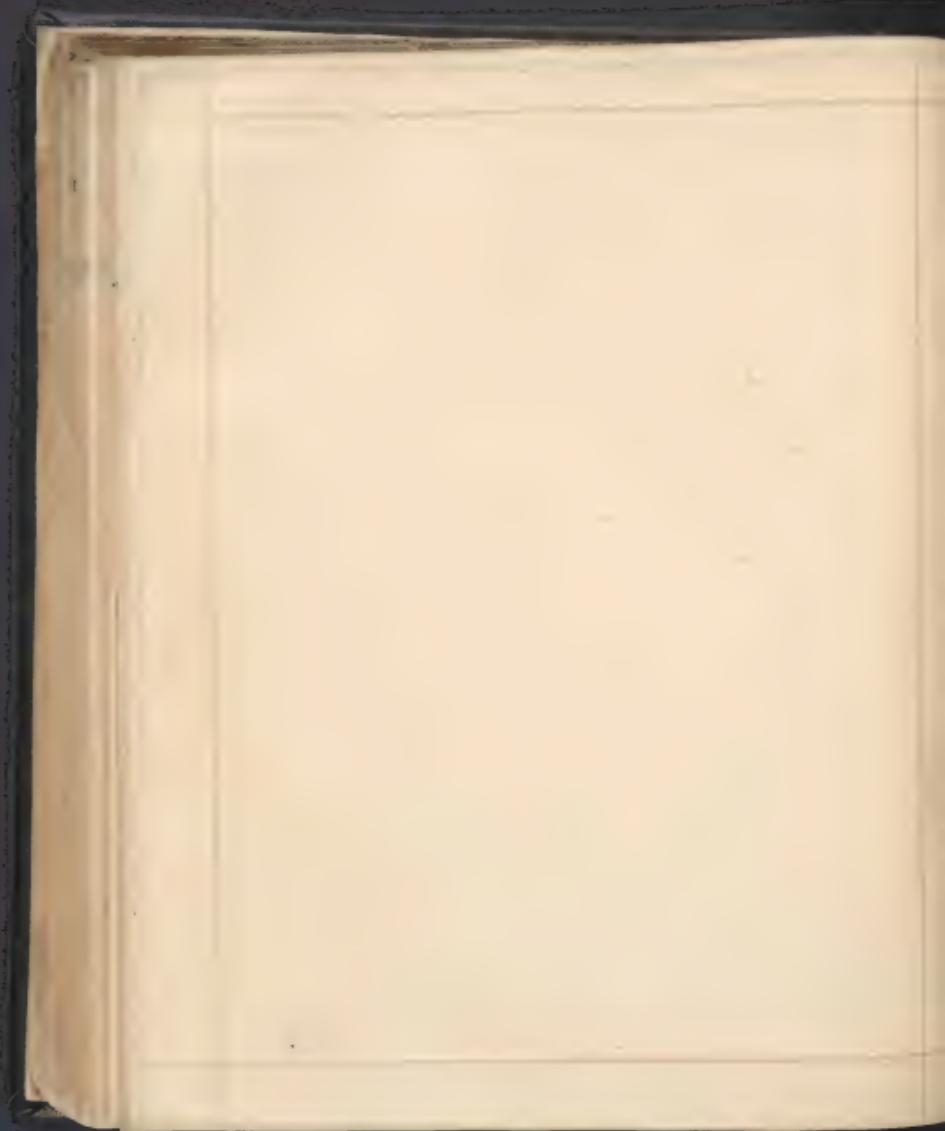


come to bilious disorders and the last mortal ague attended did
to be confined to the mucous membrane of the stomach; are all
evidences of the gouty origin of this disease. Another circum-
stance confirming this opinion is that the disease is very often
seen in those who are accustomed to their tablets, as con-
sequent upon some local injury which has been received
in it or a state of intemperance. If the disease be a
simple one that Empolius is most perfect during the autumn
when hot weather prevails & winter it might be insisted
as an excellent proof in favour of the position. Indeed so
much dependence has depended upon the condition of the mil-
itary said that a known author well observes that the dis-
ease is often removed by the excretion of the putridity excret
from them. The same process is likewise experienced in others
not by cause of the weather.

Having now given as well as lay in our favor
a general summary of the phenomena &c of this disease we will
next proceed to examine the mode of treatment to be adopted.
The Lebile disease as we have treated more emphatically than
before, and there is no one to which the following is peculiar



other - a particular remedy of a set committee has been of a
 more conflicting character. This may be attributed for the most part
 to the opposite and totally different views entertained respecting its
 pathology, some viewing the usual antiphlogistic class, and treating
 it as a purely inflammatory affection, and others as a violent
 exudative or purulent one. The treatment of the pathology,
 which we have alluded above, no mode of treatment must except
 uniformly. The remedies employed in the cure of this disease are both
 general and local. The former remedies will be first spoken of.
 Now we must consider the selection and application of them not
 properly we must discrimination and care they are to be applicated in their employment by a variety of circumstances among which
 not the least in importance is the constitution and habit of body. A
 cultivated author thus expresses our idea "Then an acute disease
 "exists in constitutions naturally weak and others, who are
 "more robust that disease and still leaves the system, I suppose of
 "more durable force, but when an acute disease attacks constitutions
 "which are robust, the very shock of such acute morbid would
 "either immediately fatal or induce a dangerous inflammation and
 "inflammation and in the latter instance therefore it is most impo-



not to combine three moderate means which would then affect an
Inflammation after strong irritation, thus compensating the elements
made up in such a manner incompletely perceptible". And again "As regards
"diseases, or in particular practice should ever be allowed to make us
* fit with the sole class of "inflammation", were an acute disease
attack now and would by this suggestion be in such cases
considered solvable as but two mild elements whereas a certain
explosion of means is the best disease as influenced by the
various circumstances always affords the greatest chance of success".
If the meaning of these sentiments in one can doubt, we do not
hesitate to assert that the uncertainty of opinion relative to the
use of Eryngium must in part at least, be attributed to the dif-
ferent circumstances under which it has existed.

The indications of cure in this disease we conceive to be,

1st. To reduce vascular action when too high.

2^d. To promote a determination to the surface of the
body, and to support a gentle Diaphoresis.

3rd. To allay irritation and remove uneasiness.

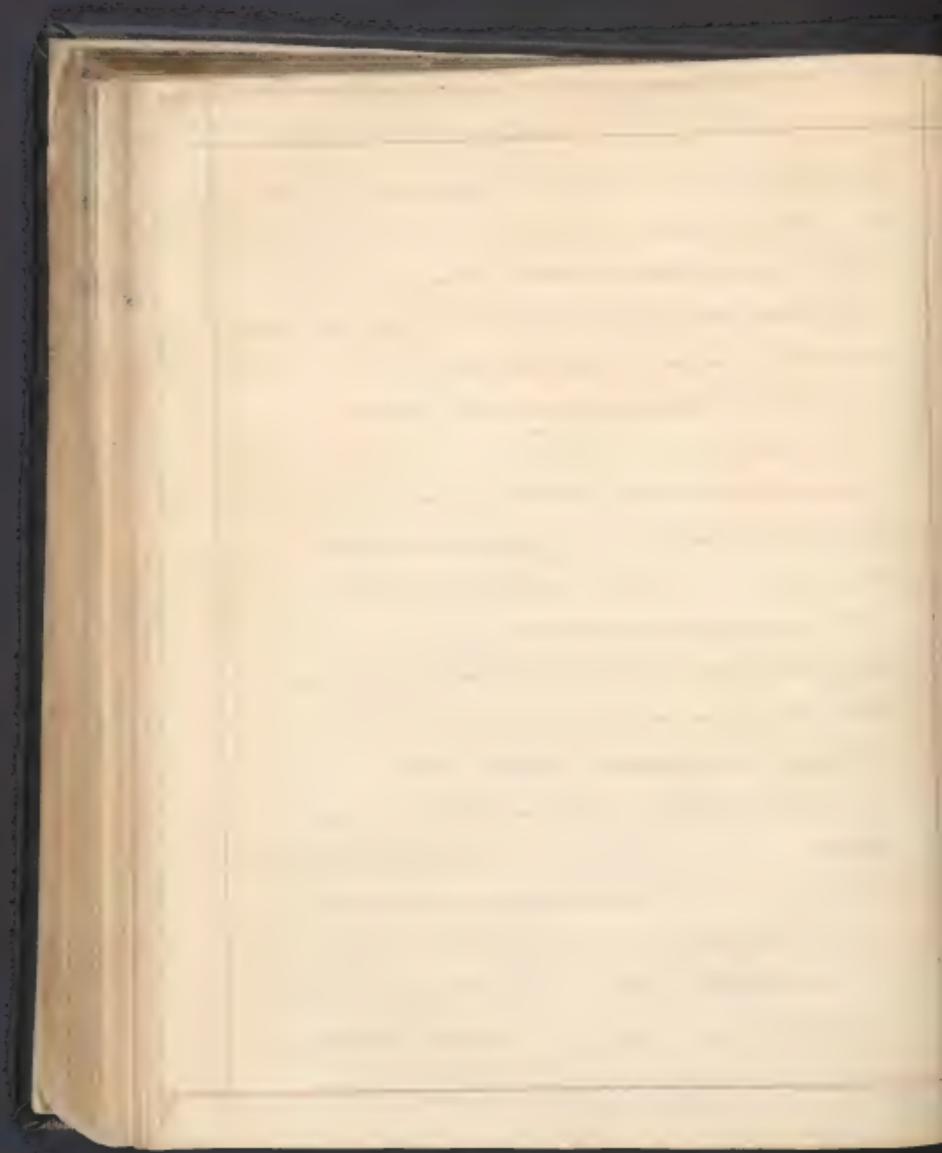
4th. To support the tone of the system, and prevent a ten-
sion in Tissues or Apparatus -



The first of these operations is to be performed by incision, ligation, cathartics, sudorifics and emetics. Great controversy has subsisted among practitioners both ancient and modern, as to the efficacy, or rather the propriety, of the abstraction of blood. By some it is advised, not as an antiphlogistic measure but as a remedy intended to alleviate the effects said to be produced by the stimulus of the disease. Bleeding is recommended by all the other physicians except Salen. Sullen cautions it under the misgivings he is employed and Scudder confined it exclusively during the months in first暑熱症 (Aug., Sept., & Oct.)

The quantity of blood to be drawn is to be regulated by the age and vitality of the patient, the part attacked, the state of the pulse, the appearance of the blood when drawn, and the degree of inflammatory symptoms. Empyema, as it occurs in the great majority of instances in this country, is of an inflammatory character, and sometimes very violent, requiring therefore depletion but in some cases (tho' they are rare) it assumes a tubercular shape, and then of course opposite measures are necessary.

It is stated that on some occasions the sputum is imperfect in the commencement, giving rise to a suppuration of density existing



and hence contraindicating the use of the tassel! But we are directed to not be deceived by this circumstance, and to make use ofpository measures as if this were not the case. In general from 3x to 3y will be sufficient to be repeated if necessary. For patients, who are incurable in their habits or where there is any disposition to relapse, continuing caution is requisite.

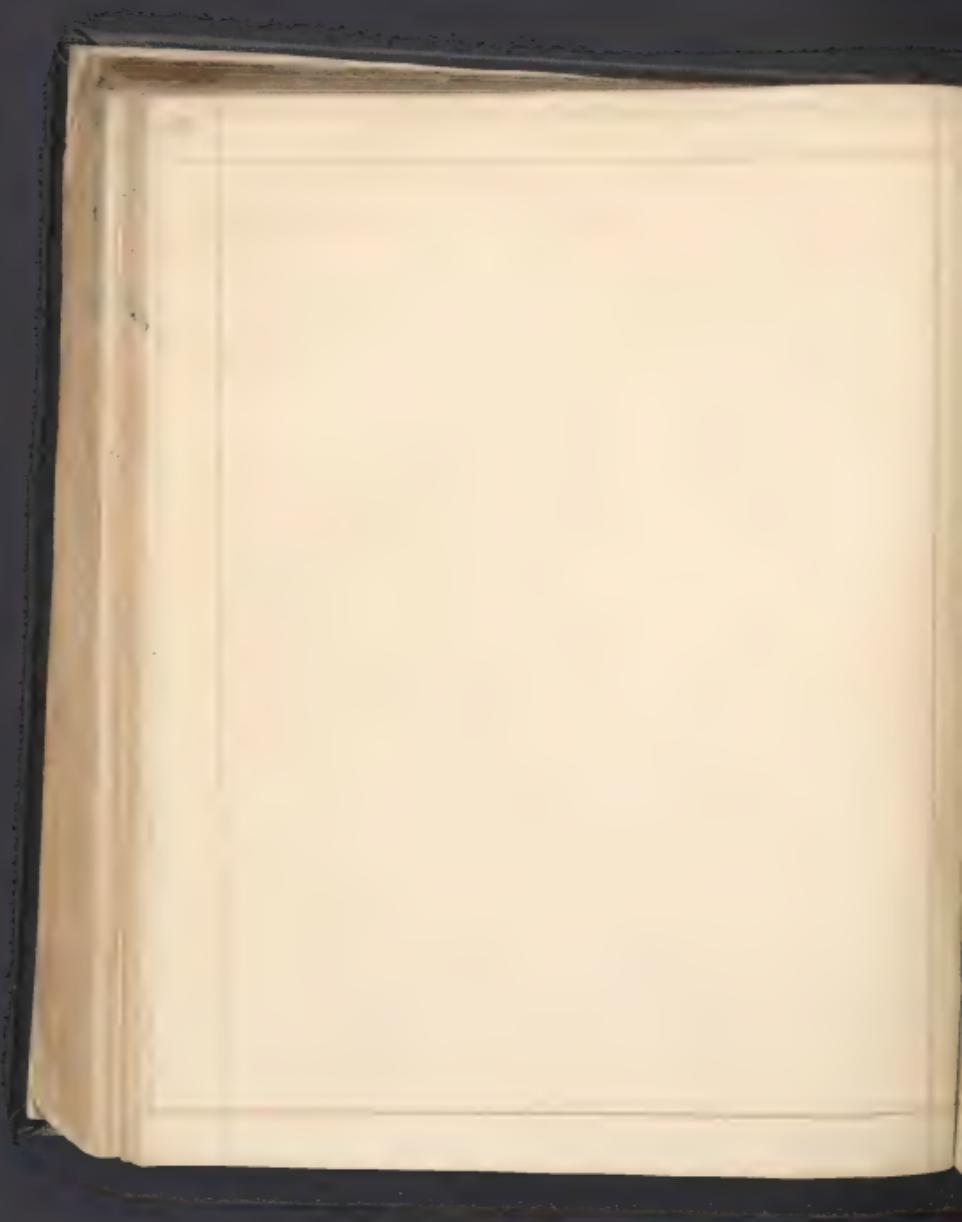
To segnetural or topical bleeding the communing and it were almost universal at one time and this not from any want of confidence in its efficacy but from a fear that the use of the cathartics used in this practice would always degenerate into tonikism and even gynecomastia result. But in fact in many instances of late years has this been proved to be groundless. Among many others we may adduce to those related in the 2^d Ed. of American Journal by a highly respectable and esteemed practitioner of this city. In the first case, their application was in accidental circumstances, but the result was favourable so much so as to induce him to make trial with them in two other cases, and in which the same benefit was derived from them. In the editorial remarks subsequent to the article, the practice is highly praised & confidently recommended.



and in order to prove its utility the reader of the French *Archives*
can consult.

Another means of reducing vascular areas or regions is the
use of a very low dose part of the antiphlogistic arsenic and are slightly
spoken of by some of the authors. It is not required that they be of
an active or drastic nature. As we have suggested the arsenic to
regulate in some measure from a diseased state of the body.
These substances that would tend to irritate would be preferable
and for this reason there is more better than arsenic.
It should be followed by some other of a mild and cooling nature
as Magnesia, which is very neutral salt. The extraction of
iron largely has been tried in some instances to good results.
In a most subsequent case I found the same effect
in removing the areas of vascular disease, without any
irritant bases. By an iron and arsenic after bleeding
the veins taken care of better. I believe not often employed
these substances in the commencement of the disease and sometimes
when other means had failed. In this case the reaction is so violent
the condition may prevail in several days of a week.

The arsenic treatment in these cases of vascular disease



by which they are used up. It is now practice to add
minister, or add small quantities of Tartar Powder dissolved in a quantity
of water to be taken at intervals. It has the effect of both less-
ening &c. a constant nervousness & the same time rendering
nervous irritations by shock, and the practice is stated to have
been very successful.

The second Indication consists in removing and
softening a gentle disposition. This is to be done in the usual
manner. In the first & the state of Plethora, where, however,
the apparent temperature of skin & Spine & other parts
are in unison with either, the Tartar Powder is to be
used in their operation by free solution.

To fulfil the 3rd Indication we are
to make use of the various concoctions used already, & such
as Opium, Camphor, Hoffmann's Liqueur &c. Opium however,
in many instances is not of utility in the form of Laudanum
since it is liable to act suddenly from what was intended, and
to diminish rather than stimulate the irritability of some organs.
In such cases we may substitute the Venetian Soap. It is stated
might be more considerate, the decomposed nature of opium -



It is very common even now that the South American comes
ill-sick, when the patient's strength is declining, while the
disease is increasing; or in other words when the symptoms are
superior. It would appear however that in most of these cases
the disease will run its course in despite of all efforts made to
arrest it and will terminate either fatalis or in the destruction
of the parts. Such are stimulants as opium, bark,
Tonic, the Minervois acids, Sotolote, &c. &c. in connection with
various irritants of different kinds—such as the like. Each is the
beneficial remedy upon which the London practitioners rely, in case
when there occurs to a patient such an inflammation and de-
struction as that in your friend of course. It does not
mean that it will cure the said case but one of the like
as before we are often bound to use. With the implement
of the hands in hand let us set about applying various reme-
dies, such as laying the part at rest & in an elevated po-
sition, wearing warm clothes and an outer coat to cold, moisture
from water, drinks of all kinds, &c. The diet should consist
for the most part of the common gruel, beans & a very light
boiling meat. The fluids may be composed of Barley water,



the water to gradually accostated with either the vegetable or mineral acids; however, solution is more gradual in water and others of the same nature.

These are all the remarks we propose to make respecting the general remedies to be employed in Egyptopolis; the local treatment will therefore next engage our attention and we shall find that probably much greater diversity of opinion results in relation to them, than in any tract which we have yet treated upon. Dr. Johnson in his great work on Inflammation does¹ the local or topical treatment of inflammation several in "the practice use of a variety of means, which are termed local or topical remedies, but it is to be regretted that the choice of those means, the time and manner of their application, their proper continuation, the length of time they should be persisted in, and the mode in which they should be varied in case to "remove the evolution of different inflammatory affection, requires some practical skill and some attentive observation over the part of the practitioner, than usually falls to the lot of those who administer them." How well these remarks apply to our own subject, where so many points are unsettled, will, we



that, to protect, precisely, by one set of practitioners, all other practitioners are strictly prohibited. By another set, they are, in certain respects, allowed, while others again profess their practice for some particular remedy to the exclusion of all else. The subject on this account has been for a great length of time, and is still now in a puzzling state, and the fear of producing a malignant humor, created the most serious prejudices against even most efficacious remedies. The physicians & apothecaries are said to produce a tendency to Paroxysmal fevers, either from the heat, and noise, the swelling spread, and exhalent and exciting heat to subdue a violent fever, caused by the latter, or, in case of sometimes taking when in external application, whatever has been most violent, and without any exertion made, to induce and continue, but a very small number in the more violent of the complaints, for the purpose of exciting the fever, and for abating the violent and discharged from the vessels, and thus preventing it from becoming worse, and spreading the heat in the neighborhood. Now, we believe now well nigh, that the remedy fails indirectly in suspending the first intention, and that it fails in



des to regulate the disease, by lessening and irritating excretions
upon the surface. Heron is also aware of topical applications,
and to allay the above symptoms he merely recommends
that the parts be washed with some mild decoction or moist
a man and watery. Aware therefore of the uncertainty
and doubt which have rested upon this subject, it became
our object to ascertain if, whether, by repeated trials of what
value any of these remedies were professed, and how much
superiority one had over another, or whether any of those in
vogue at different periods, or that are now known & used,
were really entitled to the appellation of specifics. We will
accordingly treat of them separately, and under each remedy, in
set the cases in which we have known or seen it used.

Those which are most employed at present are 1st. Drop
water as Mr. West. Cane. French and Co. etc.

2d. Refrigerants as cold water, or solutions of certain salts

3d. Aromatic applications as the tinct. Hydrosyphil. Dr.

4th. Narcotics & obstringents as opium, rectols of lead &c

5th. Distillers. 6th. Specifications - 7th. Emollient oals

flaxseed



We have already spoken of the new glands. The second affection
 enumerated is still in rather歧形的. Then it has not been said,
 we understand by some, from a publication of this author's, so,
 that a knowledge of the disease. But they are of so much service in
 advancing the explanation and securing the sufferings of the pa-
 tient, that the situation has been frequently mentioned and they may
 well be cited by you many of our most intelligent physicians. They
 consist of large vesicles upon which the skin is raised
 and which uniformly at first seem regular & perfectly symmetrical
 then insensibly in one instant expand, vary to many others
 and make a most singular aspect fit for the gazer. It is to be
 noted that they may be easily reduced by applying certain substances
 to the vesicle, such as white Lead or calamine. It is
 in fact of this is most generally referred by the London Master
 himself. The figure annexed relates to the sometimes cited
 Harvey and this may be found I will afterwards in each
 part to illustrate this point by mentioning a case which occurred
 in September 1826. On which figure will follow every thing
 known in his time to assist you in the examination of such
 a case in which the character, symptoms and most usual mode of



salient of the disease are exhibited.

Case 14. A. H. C. aged 20, an early in the morning of the 15th January 1880 was attacked with a chill succeeded by fever & symptoms of type of appendicitis nausea & bitter taste on the mouth was taken some cathartic medicine which aggravated considerably. This evening, I directed 3 morphia, tongue slightly moist. Directed to take Johnson's Lard & Vaseline Salve over the rectum free solution with barley water.

In the afternoon attached with Ergotopos of the nose & upper lip. & rectal solution when warm found full. Has not taken the latter directed Lard Salve & free solution. 17th Ergotopos passing on the nose & lip, but increasing in the cheeks. Tongue moist frequently skin warm, pulse full. Directed Salve & free solution solution. 18th Tongue opened & found the rectal solution material tongue clean. 19th Ergotopos more extensive on forehead, and disappearing from cheeks. No suggestion made to evacuate faeces but there was no longer flatus, & bowel removed. Directed Salve & Lard Salve. 20th Last abt. 4th in bowel loose. In the evening the blood presented a slight bluish appearance, several loose stools from the medicine which



... taken in one dose. 1000 Gr. Iguinalbum & 10 grains of
Ammonium nitricum of dilution. Tincture made in water and the dose
of the patient was one drachm.

Case 2^d April 22nd 1824. James V. aged and temperate
at the first growth stage of the European Measles vaccination fever.
and then natural tongue and not a vesicle nor bubble
seen from meleoma or S. Atrophy, but by the last of April
Sustained Aug-Symp. 2 mon. by a billious vomiting & found

120° Excrepted fading on the right side but extending to the
left, bowels open, pulse & skin natural. Posterior (both) enlarged
slightly on left side, tongue recurred, tongue & flesh natural
bowels freely purged, Posterior ... On the 26th when my notice
of the inflammation removed, and he was fully recovered in health

^e The same idea it will be evident that no topical application
was made use of. He was treated in cold water & ice bath
most in water.

This subject in this instance was admitted to a hospital
in a laundry in this city. On the 2d of May 1824, he received a
severe kick from a horse on the back of the neck which mortified
him, and when in the act of passing the street he stood in great agonies



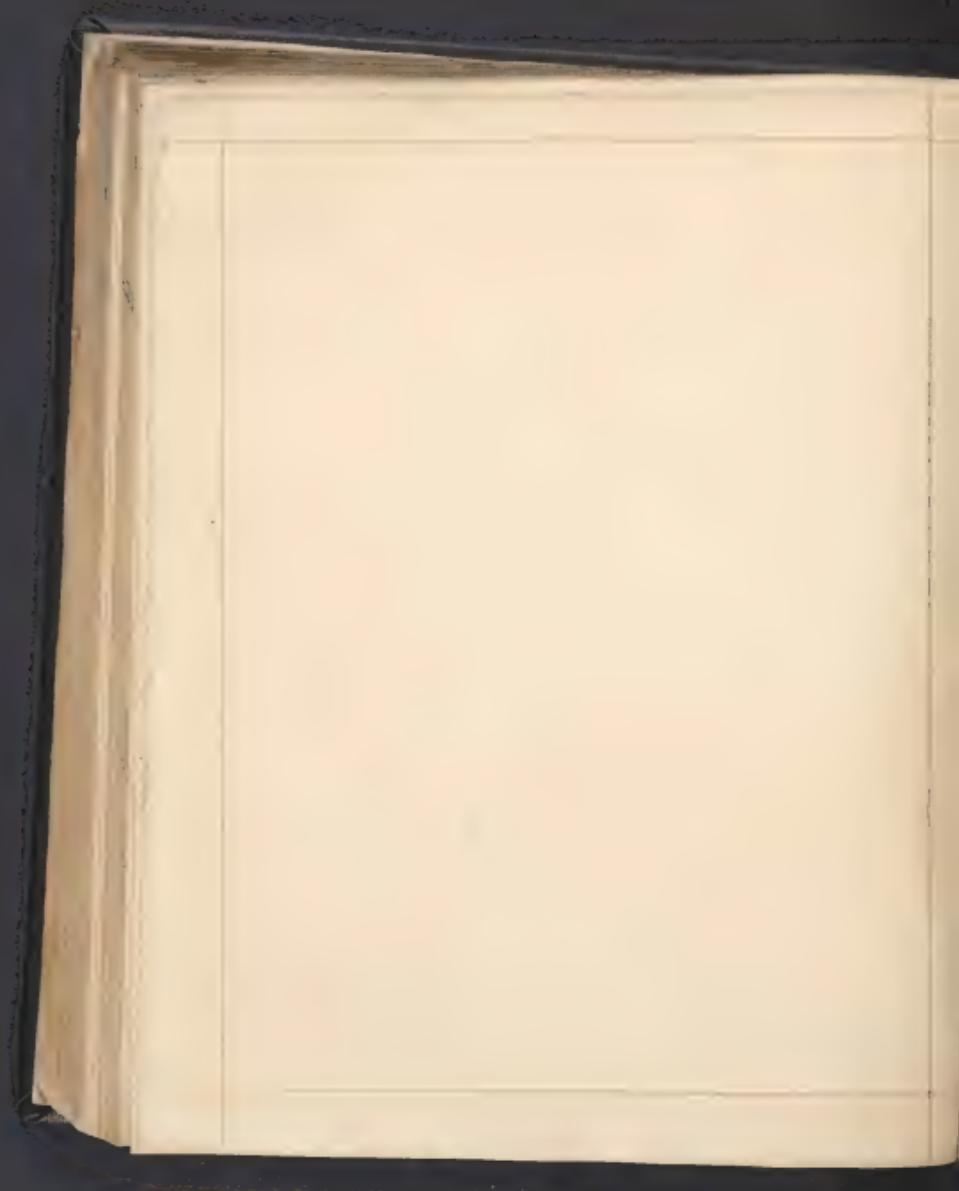
a plant which produces a small oval leaf from 2 to 3 inches in length a short distance above the right eye. On a day or two he recovered from the immediate effects of the stroke, and remained in silence to his companion. 16th He again sought medical advice, an hypodermic injection of the face & scalp having some effect on the eye, pain. The face was much swollen & blistersed; the eyes were almost closed, considerable restlessness in the past, also full and raised suppurring. Directed stuff 1/2 dr. & apply cloths wet with cold water constantly to the face & a poultice to the round spot. Setting somewhat subsided. Continue 1/2 dr. out compound Epsom salts, and continue application. 17th Found very traces of the disease perceptible. The round raised suppurring - 17th Entirely recovered.

18th Last night apprehension returned over the same scene. Found that was here so lately recovered from such a fit, imminent and in view of no just or definite reason. Last time seen in this society, the man was very anxious about what further steps were made out of it. Late scenes have abated, but some of them undoubtedly are still segregated and continue apprehensive. These have been introduced into quarters, and now I trust will



and remedies for relieving the pain and irritations, and all as it is said to quieting about the passage of the disease. His visitation seems to have been into this country is mostly due to Dr. George Still of Pennsylvania, the friend of Quaile, and the author of the *History of the Medical Faculty of the University of Edinburgh*. He was in when it was in Dr. W. Lees was installed in the third Number of the Medical Faculty in 1826. A 15 Guarantor's name is given by order of these for selecting this Preparation. But they state in the next printed notice that their choice rather it was almost impulsive than capable to instantaneous the selection of those who have been given to them.

I am employing the remedy indiscriminately either in the inflammatory or tubercular species. Their testimony being so unanimous and their reputation in high standing confidence was placed in these hands of treatment and it became the almost universal one in this city. So well it made with it received selection generally were it found it was esteemed almost a wonder in the world. Other physicians of course were also made use of in the same treatment and in treatment. It became a question at this time whether the application of the remedy could be creditable to the memory of the late Experiments were therefore made well both and best were



want to answer the purpose. Various substances were applied in many instances with great benefit. This latter application we appears from a note subjoined to the extract above alluded to was made use of by Dr. Shattell at the city for many years past with much success in the preparation of a dry water. The editor also states his belief upon experience of its efficacy. He memory is supposed to rest upon the principle that no two actions of a different nature can exist at the same time, and one must therefore yield to the other.

In one of the English Journals where notice is taken of the new cure adopted by Dr. Dean and Little of treating the disease by this topical application, it is observed, that Mr. Brodie had found it efficacious, but that it was attended with the serious inconvenience of inducing ulceration. This circumstance is also mentioned by Dr. Dean, and it will be seen that in one of the cases to be found below something like ulceration did occur. It is also stated in the same Journal that it occurred to Mr. Brodie that the benefit derived was due more to the adhesive quality than to the metallic oxide. In employing a similar cement in many instances it would seem less correct. It also recommends that after its application, "the patient experienced almost immediate relief and the disease seemed to be cured at



staged more, probably than under ordinary circumstances. In presence of the skin which we have examined we will repeat what was said in which the muscular movement was reported.

Case I.—A 35-year-old man who was infected with dyspepsia of the face on the 17th June 1887. For a day or two previous he was affected with the usual diarrhoea common in the land, caused "reddened & swollen" rectal tongue, &c., & white, purges were excreted from the rectum until the 2^d day of the case, which was removed, and rectal diarrhoea continued throughout, however the rectal pain & tenesmus did not leave him. When stool was taken away it could be noted to contain the stools with one tendency to contract the left rectal & recto-anal muscle. The recto-anal muscle had double & slightly increased, also levator and rectal tongue power, and the increase of muscles at stomach anteriorly & sacrum which came in the morning directed toward the rectum tone of a stool on 18th instant. Stool on tongue retained 20th. Yesterday diarrhoea was on right side of the rectum, but affecting the left, recto-anal muscle and also levator tongue more, and rectal bowel action inhibited. Directed toward rectum and recto-anal muscle.

It's latent much better, no colic, grippeant, constipation, vomiting, &c.



and at the scat & back of the neck, curvilinear, and about
one-half, second, third, covered by moderate
& delicate, and continuous exudate [2^o] Pus like exudate and
slightly viscidish, temperature mostly of 98° F on the 23^d discharged

In the above case, the patient has been attacked several
times in the course she born child recent and stated that at all
previous deliveries she had one side out of the normal
position succeeded best.

Case 2 - Mrs D. - Onset on the 1st day morning
July 1 1827 with slight and tedious sweating. Complaint of double
swelling in her eye then hot pulse full, tongue moist three times
with this morning. Considered about 30° F. Feeding taken & every
time the sweating blood very fainting caused severe uneasiness
then hot, feverish fits continue powders and oil bath were taken
Volatile oil of Saffron with Sassafras & Sprig Lemon, no 30, given by
Molft hand [2^o] Rested tolerably last night one dark stool
then hot & Sprig Lemon & 100^d Honey. Medicine passed
well with the first discharge being dark and the surrounding
area whitish as to colour skin cool and no complaint present.
Well - a paroxysm of fever with delirium & great restlessness.

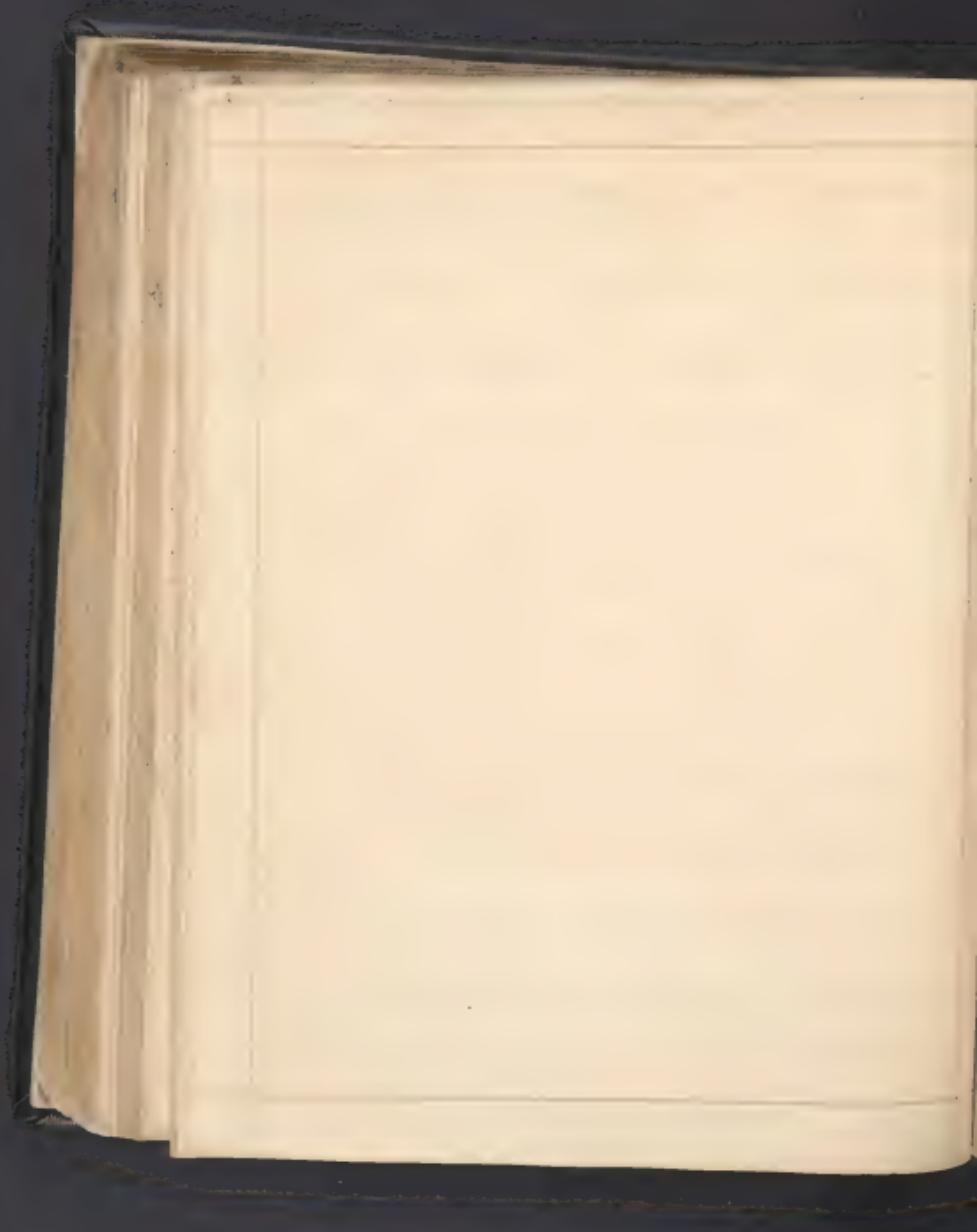


and evaporation, more mental than corporeal. At 5th A.M.
 4th Sept took hot Syrup 2oz. in 24 hr. down up St. Vincent
 4th 8th No frequent full pulse before vomiting. dark stools
 and diarrhoea on the right side of the neck 15 Hydrogen Sulphur
 powder every hour. Sixth August 3, in divided doses. In the Evening
 stomach compost several dark stools from Molarine. Signs of loss
 of sight in and check - apply Molarine ointment & continue
 10th Vaged a bad night. much delirious exclamation in & de-
 velopments from the centre of the ventricle, but extending grad-
 ually towards the middle line. Since last stomach compost &
 stools dark. 8th Stage Sixth Aug. Anterior 17th by Hydrogen Sul-
 phur 11 total. Take 30g every two hours and continue ointment; 10th Vaged
 rather a bad night. considerable delirium alternating ex-
 tended to the margin of the nose skin not so warm, pulse not
 so full. Tongue brown, continued about frequent dark stools.
 Continue 17th Vaged a tolerable night. inflammation eaten
 out to the nose skin very little above natural temperature
 were rather frequent instances of considerable discharge of liquid
 saliva from the mouth. No recurrent pulse several stools of a
 lighter colour. Continue 18th Skin cool and moist, pulse soft



the rather frequent state of a lighter colour Sublimation has
occurred to the more intense light. More and more sudden &
light transmutation of the soft green shade dark & brownish black
as Huygen's list says in several cases Sulfuric acid (180)
Sulfur fuming (180) still going in the 15° Potent uncoloured

The Remains and Sublimates now in a coarse
aggregation consist then in the more intense shades brown
and brownish. The same compound will occur of the remaining
parts the apparent proportion of lead in the heavier fractions is
less. The less volatile substances however have always manifested
the cause for their brownish colour off the rest of remedial colour
in the others. But who in those they have left the more
the purest form of those two of lead containing. Huygen states
that in his case because the influence of Camphor always seems re-
flected in some extension before though in another there can
be seen - say in an first one out of forty two typical applica-
tions to which he is favourable. In this city solid applications are
confined to means of the most efficient remediations among
them Protophlor Thymus & Vitium. The former requires a mixture
composed of Siderite Limestone & the species Albitum & the latter



a warm solution of opium & Saltpetre in one of our Dispensaries lately informed us, that he had been in the habit of using for the last fifteen or twenty solutions of Opium & Acetate of Lead, in one 12 grain. Strength & given by me a small quantity with almost unanimous success. No cases of malady ever occurred to him from its use, and he has employed it in very many; in one case the inflammatory symptoms were subsisted in less than 24 hours.

I have only one instance in which the powers of opium alone have been tested, as an external application.

Mrs Catherine F. - Abo 3 1820 attacked with Ergotism of the face, nostril, inguinal and perineal parts. Doctred At abt 38 gr. of a Strength 3 gr. but lasting only one hour & every two hours a fresh solution of opium 3% of chloroform, produced several such fits, swelling and uterine convulsions closed longer till she died. Post mortem 70% of hair was lost, also several Doctred At abt 3 gr. & continued 18th Physickes dispensing thin cool & urine external poultice application 50% Dispensing similarly.

The next class consist in proper & special ointments & balsams. These have been often applied directly to the part affected in combination with mercury. They are supposed to act in the first



instance in employing the edges of the plow and thus removing
a portion of the surface sand on the soil so as to increase the
volume, & thereby well even the surface from the part which
it had turned back to natural. The other way however the best
conveniently, has been recommended to me, would consist in
some instantaneo. Piling, between those sections between the sheet
steel and near the soil without the rest of the draw, two or
more distinct embankments, which are built (without the draw)
being applied to the last draw, another additional section made
out of earth in the same way & over the ridge of the draw
Piling to support it there enough and so far as extension of
the embankment boundary. To this advantage however there is some
other great objection concerning it that such an immediate edging
of the draw to into difficulties is created by them & are to be
employed than the present before of being of course are rendered
so inconvenient to the horticultural and other that is not more than
and there can be given in horticultural it is necessary that to the
detached surface in all cases has applied. But although we are
able to extract an opinion contrary to that sentiment by the most
informed authority & although we are aware of the thought to be



should prove their value, cannot be very difficult; as in the majority of instances the disease is mild, it would be better to find two or three such cases & make an appeal to the medical community. Independent of the talents of the societies admitted before publication of "Masturbation Society" they could have had no more suffering than the disease itself would create. It should appear however that operations could very frequently be made by patients to themselves. But however much we are averse to their doing operations there exists always, due to the nature of the disease, recurring from convalescence must be very great, particularly when Masturbation becomes a great sin. But even then they ought not to be used until the failure of Masturbation & especially from seduced by physicians and friends.

The second comment - is to make a national committee without belonging to any other body, and to name them "Eugenics & Health" at the same instant to prepare to act, then by reason of the desire them to be made of the founders of our school, general communication shall be made with respect to a National Eugenics Society. I am anxious to know whether or not his plan is allowable to very practical in this city. It is generally supposed that Scandinavians are best



recalled and introduced into practice by Dr. Hutchinson & considered so
curious in the case of Egyptian feet from inquiry I suppose that
I thought it fit to make of the facts & for such as the terms of
a "Recd a practice similar to his promised. In the letter in his
"History of Phrygia" printed in 1708 observes that "in an Egyptian cemetery
"Any the part where the mummies are buried and hardened will often
"uncover the mummifications in a very sudden and surprising manner"

The operation consists in making a cavity of the desired extent
and the part affected, a number of fine longitudinal incisions from
one end to another and a sharp or long iron skewer introduced
till it reaches the muscles & arrives to the formation of any matter.
The method is said to have been of great utility but so far as
we know has been little practised by others. In fact we can hardly
by suppose the remedy to be applicable to the disease when occurring
in the face - not to say ^{here} eyes. We should be anxious how
the instrument the face to be so inserted & with what effect. In
these cases ^{here} the disease was seated upon the external limb
and which happened to treat injuries.

The stitching can well stand at the hand I say
is the subject of the treatment of diseases. The effects of the



and now the sense of attack could no longer be admitted into the Hospital even furnished as by Dr D. of this city. It is evident until the last work is interesting from its combining all the varieties of typical applications which have been mentioned, and also at least to show to what an extent the disease may increase involving a number of acts and threatening over the life of the patient.

Case. "All patient Dr. A. admitted on 23rd May with a slight constitutional affection of the right side of the face, proceeding as she says, from wearing a ring of two metals in her ear which had been worn a few days, now as on the 24th when Dr. A. called in the examination had turned up to the right eyelid which was much tumefied. The skin was of a deep red colour and had a tendency of swelling this was swollen, redness and thirst the tongue was severely coated with a white fur on the sides and a thickened circulation in the center. The pulse was rather full and slow. Examination with glass there was also constricted and pain in the nose. She was bled to the amount of one and took an Emulsion 28th; The emulsion had increased the same unextended over the nose and up to the forehead slight minima & vesicles appeared. She was dressed with salves to be washed off with Camomile and Manna & lota of wine soaked in a strong solution of



The disease which was first gradually applied to the external part
and who was allowed warm saltwater water to drink. On the 26th
there was still an excess of the disease directed a poultice following
mixture consisting of common salts & the same Tartar powder. The actions
were discontinued and the medical treatment was applied. On the
27th the disease had reached the left eye & side of the face the
disease was very considerable the same treatment continued. On the
28th there were some indications of approaching gangrene and a tis-
sue was applied over the whole face, the drawing of which produced
considerable relief. On the 29th a large slough had separated on the
left eyelid. The left eyelid which was threatened with a similar
 affection was swathed with a cloth and a cloth having out of a strong
 solution of Epsom salts was applied to the whole face. The Element
and Tincture of Opium was administered which produced the first
consciousness the patient had experienced since the first attack. The
next day the patient was removed to the East Hospital.

At the time of my admission into this establishment on the
first day he the disease was at its height. On the 8th & 9th day
the suppuration and inflammation was extended over the cheek, tem-
ples, forehead & neck the mouth of his nose & lips. Intervening

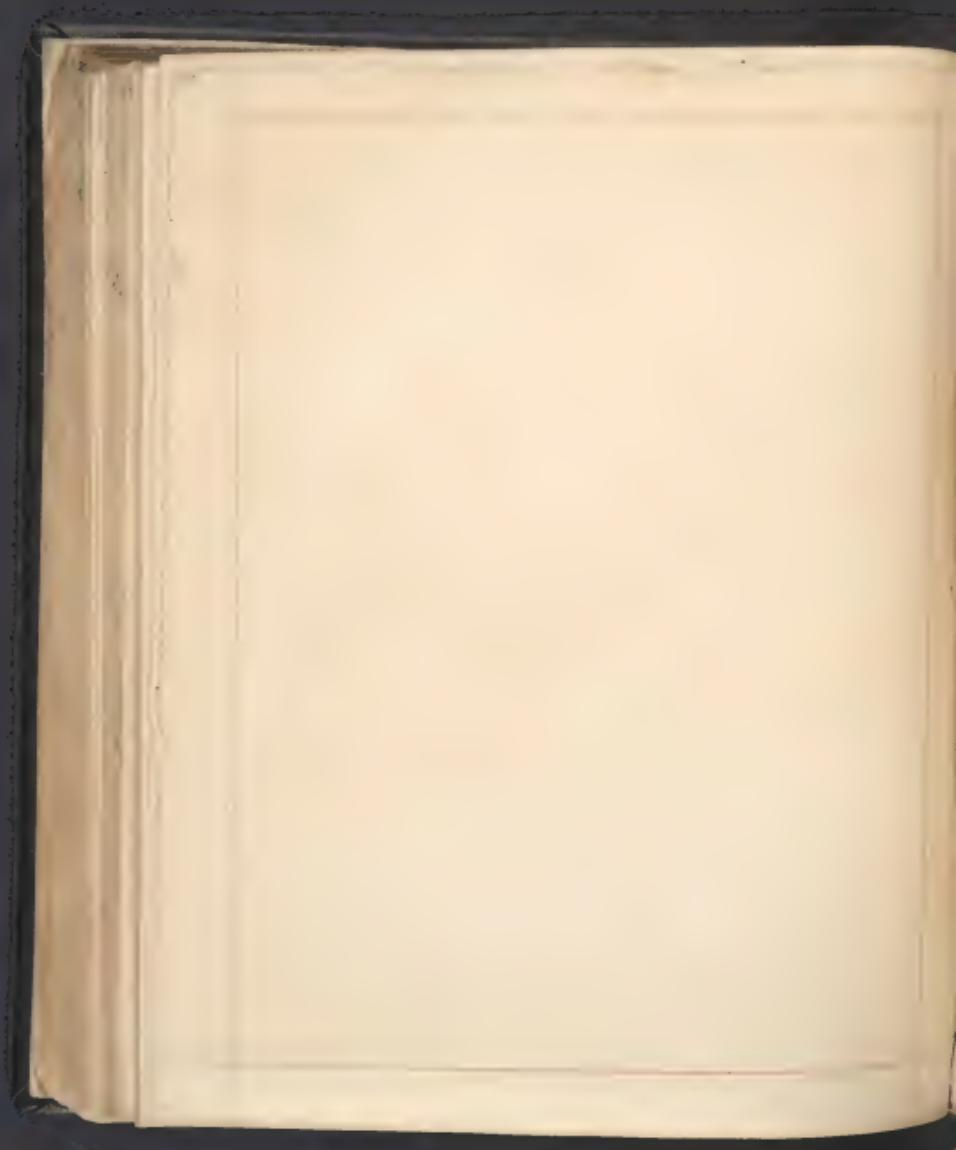


The cellular excretion in both eyes was in a sloughy state & was
more afterwards generalised over the conjunctiva even membranes. Her eye was so
much swollen that the visual acuity of the eyes was not to be perceived.
This however in a short time somewhat subsided, when it was found that
the right eye was safe, but the left had its conjunctival covering adhered
to and granulating, with a small abscess in it: the cornea was also in
a sloughy condition. The treatment during the three first days of her admission
consisted in moderate bleeding, applying blisters morning & night of a solution of acetate
of Lead to the part, and allowing her a light and nourishing diet. To destroy
the conjunctival granulations, the nitrate of Silver was applied. (June 2^d) So Leeches
resorted to being applied to left side of the face around the eye which soon
fissile and lost of considerable benefit. (7th) The right eye more reduced
left eyelid still much swollen, a simple emollient directed to it (9th) Inflamed
swelling still more reduced on face & other parts except the left eyelid,
which supplicated & discharged sloughs: some pain felt in its Leeches again
directed, and after their application a poultice: bowels kept open. (10th)
(3th) Lancinating pains felt in the diseased eye: not much benefit derived
from the previous applications. The solution of acetate of Lead had been
again resorted to: and its use was alternated with that of an infusion
of Hops. A blister directed to the part. Her sufferings producing little effect.



... and thought advisable in the fall to commence with a course of 200
grains. Accordingly Salvarsan® granules were dissolved in the proportion of
"one grain per 100 grs. of fluid water" - one to be taken
twice a day & twice pricked at night. An improvement took place
until the mouth became touched by the mercury, when its benigne
al effects became manifest in reducing the swelling to about the
size of the patient was allowed a generous diet and a selection
of delicate & digestible meat & vegetables under the following directions
1/2 to 3/4 pint of water this latter treatment the disease was
cured and the patient recovered his health & strength. Patients
who are among us retaining the integrity of an eye at least

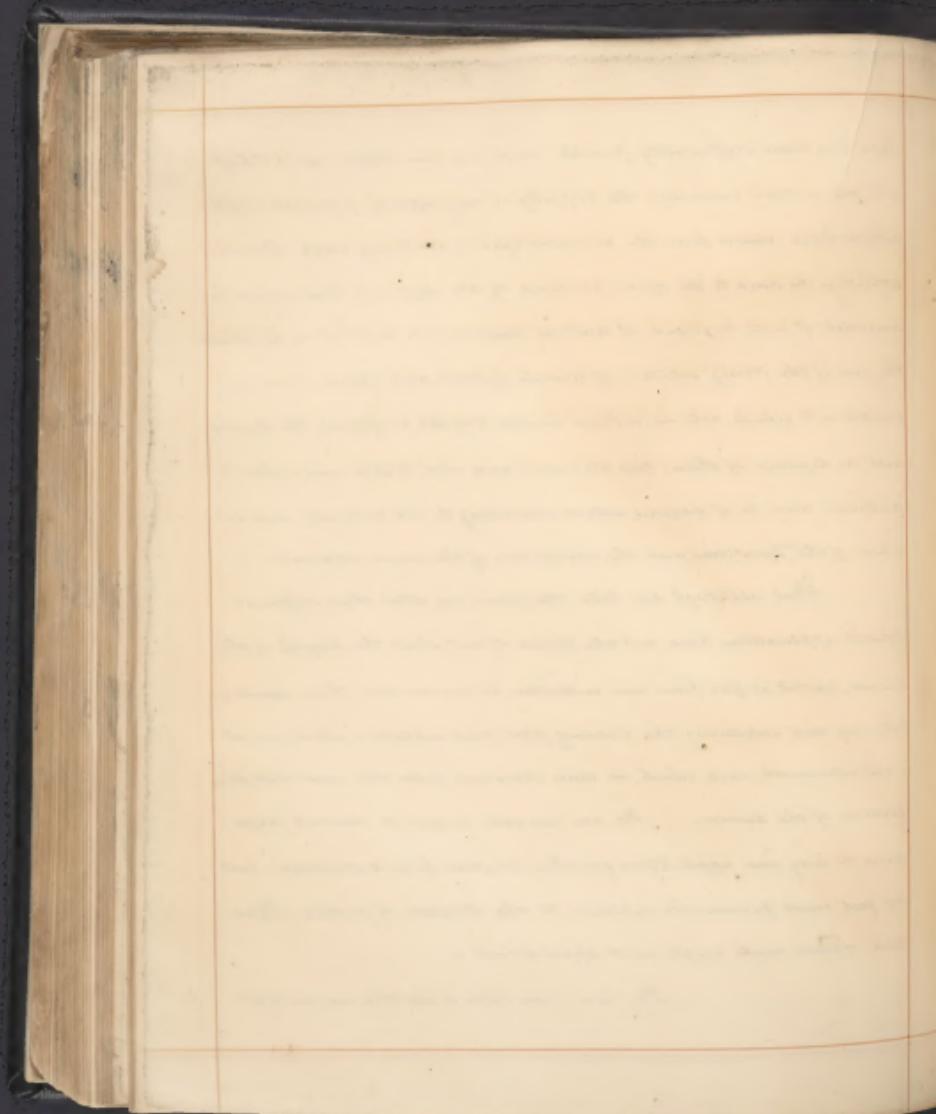
just after all that has been said particularly
on the dependent development of trypomelias, what treatment we have
is now? The results of our cure at least will not warrant us in
recommending the dependency of our external remedy over another
in curing our dependent or very incipient disease entirely or
in regaining any one is a disaster for the disease. In fact, we
are other inflammatory affection, so in leprosy, all consider
it as first. Doctor Leishman may admit of specific connection but
Leprosy cannot certainly be regarded a specific disease, nor is



hope has been sufficiently proved: and we can safely assert that all the notions respecting the propriety or impropriety of certain applications have arisen from the erroneous idea of its being such. If a strict attention be paid to the effects produced by the different local means considered, it will be found, at least in most instances, if not in all [unintelligible] the use of the strong solution of acetate of Lead and opium prove an exception. V which acts as a pure repellent of the eruption; the disease will, in defiance of them, run its course, and will travel over various distances, and be of various extent, according to the intensity and duration of the symptoms, and the constitution of the person attacked.

But although we take this view, viz that these different topical applications have not the power to cut short the progress of the disease, yet it is far from our intention to undervalue their merits in relieving and subduing the burning pain and irritation, which are always experienced, and which, on some occasions, form the most distressing features of the disease — We are unable to give a decided preference to any one application for this purpose, from experience; but we feel most favourably inclined to the solution of acetate of Lead and opium, made weak and applied cool —

We have now offered all the important



information which we have been able to obtain respecting Cypripedium.
The authorities we have consulted are numerous and respectable
the extracts we have made from them are opinions, and, as we believe,
bearing upon the subject; and although the remarks which we
have ventured to make are imperfect and presented with diffi-
culty, yet a confident hope is entertained that you will, on the
present occasion, extend that liberal indulgence you have ever
shown to the expectations presented by the candidates for medical
degrees.

